



Professional Photographers
of America

July 12, 2010

The Honorable Mary Landrieu
United States Senate
Chairman, Senate Small Business Committee
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Olympia Snowe
United States Senate
Ranking Member, Senate Small Business Committee
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Landrieu and Ranking Member Snowe,

We are writing today in support of Section 2042 of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297) on behalf of Professional Photographers of America, Society of Sport & Event Photographers, Commercial Photographers International, Evidence Photographers International Council, and the Stock Artists Alliance. Together with our affiliated organizations, we represent some 44,000 professional photographers.

Professional photographers are the smallest of small business owners. The vast majority are one, two, or possibly three-person businesses earning an average of \$35,000 per year. With the average cost of health insurance approaching \$12,000 for family coverage, it is easy to see why health insurance premiums can be prohibitive for photographers.

In previous years we have lent our support to The Equity for Our Nation's Self-Employed Act (S.2243/H.R. 1470), as introduced by both the House and the Senate. As such, we greatly appreciate the inclusion of this provision which provides the self-employed a single year business deduction for health insurance costs.

The self-employed and small businesses are where the most innovation takes place and where the majority of new jobs are created. Amid these tough economic times, this important legislation will free up sorely needed funds to help self-employed individuals pay for their family's health insurance and expand their businesses. As such, we offer our continuing support to your efforts.

Sincerely,

David P. Trust
Chief Executive Officer